

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

2500 North State Street
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39216

June 26, 1965

Office of the Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

Area Code 601
366-2681

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Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed is a copy of three pages from the April, 1965, issue of The Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine, repeating an accusation previously made in the lay press that members of our Department of Pathology were "examples of professional disgrace."

At the time that Doctor Spain released his statements to the press, I wrote to the appropriate people in the American Medical Association and Association of American Medical Colleges recording our role in the autopsies. It appeared at that time that no additional action was needed. However, now these charges have been repeated in a reputable scientific journal and I do need your help in protecting the reputations of the members of our Department of Pathology. Is there any possibility that you might be able to provide me with a statement that our Department of Pathology, and the University Medical Center, although not directly responsible for the autopsies, did indeed give the FBI every assistance in your investigations in the very best traditions of medicine? I believe if I could quote such a statement to the editor of the Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine, the Journal of Medical Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges, and of the Journal of the American Medical Association that this would do much to dispel the cruel and unfair charge that our pathologists failed to act responsibly as physicians. Actually you would in effect be repeating to me individual statements you have made to members of our faculty and staff.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Q. Marston
Robert Q. Marston, M.D.
Director and Dean

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3 ENCLOSURE

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EX-107

CORRESPONDENCE

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LOUIS L. MAGNA*

Departments of Medicine (Division of
Clinical Pharmacology) and Pharmacology
and Experimental Therapeutics,
The Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine

THE MIND AND MORALITY OF THE DOCTOR**

II. The Physician and the Macrocosm

The world is occasionally shocked by the failure of physicians to act in a moral and responsible manner. During World War II, there were appalling atrocities committed in the name of nationalism by some German doctors. In 1948, the newly formed World Medical Association met in Geneva to draw up a declaration which would serve as an international code of ethics and help to impress on newly qualified doctors the fundamental ethics of medicine. There were two sections aimed particularly at preventing a recurrence of the bestiality practiced in Germany during Nazi domination. These ran as follows:

I will not permit considerations of religion, nationality, race, party politics, or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient;

I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception; even under threat I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity.¹

The World Medical Association would not accept the German Medical Association as a member group until the medical profession in Germany had made a public declaration about the part played by certain German physicians in these crimes.

To some, Nazi Germany may seem far away. But we can find occasions nearer to home and closer in time which bear on the status of the physician as a member of society and of the human race. No American physician can be unaware of the murder last year in Mississippi of three civil rights workers. When their bodies were recovered, the wire services of our country carried a report that a private pathologist, ostensibly appointed by the coroner, the University of Mississippi Pathology Department, and

* Associate Professor of Medicine, and Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

** This lecture was originally given on January 21, 1965, as part of the 1965 Yale Lectures on Medical Ethics entitled, "Freedom and Medical Control of Society."

Received for publication 4 February 1965.

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ENCLOSURE

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Dr. Ward Darley

Page 2

December 11, 1964

The Department of Pathology and the individual members of it have received letters of thanks and commendation from Mr. J. Edgar Hoover for their help and cooperation during that trying period.

In summary, I feel that the University of Mississippi's Department of Pathology has been unfairly attacked in the press by a member of the medical profession. I am sending you this letter, and a copy to the Council on Medical Education of the AMA, in case this matter comes to your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Q. Marston, M. D.
Director and Dean

RQM:da

cc: Dr. Walter S. Wiggins, Secretary
Council on Medical Education
American Medical Association

bcc: Chancellor Williams
Doctor Jobe

Mrs. Twiss ✓

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: July 1, 1965

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BERNARD L. AKIN, ET AL.;
MICHAEL HENRY SCHWERNER,
ET AL. - VICTIMS (DECEASED)
CIVIL RIGHTS

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Stewart

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Belmont
Mohr
DeLoach
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
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This is the case of the three murdered civil rights workers in Mississippi in June, 1964.

In my memorandum 6/29/65, which is attached for ready reference, it was set forth that Robert Q. Marston, Director and Dean, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi, in a letter dated 6/26/65 to the Director refers to an article by Dr. Spain who conducted an independent autopsy on James Chaney, one of the victims, in which Spain states that Chaney had been beaten in an inhuman fashion. Dr. Spain in his article infers that the pathologist who conducted the autopsy assisted by University of Mississippi Pathological Department concealed the fact that Chaney had been beaten. Dr. Marston requested a statement from the Bureau indicating that the University of Mississippi Department of Pathology, although not directly responsible for the autopsy, did give the FBI every assistance in the investigation in the very best traditions of medicine.

Dr. Featherston who conducted the autopsy noted broken bones in the body of Chaney but stated he could not reliably determine the cause of these breaks. Investigation conducted by the FBI has not revealed any evidence to the fact that Chaney was beaten. On 8/13/64, individual letters under the Director's signature were sent to members of the faculty and staff of the University of Mississippi Medical Center expressing appreciation for the outstanding cooperation rendered.

This matter was discussed with [redacted] Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice who approved of the information being furnished to Dr. Marston in the attached letter.

Enclosures (3)

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BERNARD L. AKIN, ET AL.;

ACTION:

1. Attached is a letter to Dr. Marston reiterating the cooperation furnished by members of his staff and faculty.
2. Attached is a letter to the Civil Rights Division confirming the conference with

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